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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**RIPLEY COUNTY MAIL CARRIER INDICTED FOR THEFT OF
CURRENCY FROM U.S. MAIL**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced today that DARLA G. COPELAND, 37, Versailles, Indiana, was indicted late yesterday by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for theft of mail matter by a Postal Service employee, following an investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

The indictment alleges that between April 2003 and about October 23, 2003, Copeland, a Postal Service employee, stole cash from mail entrusted to her.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James M. Warden, who is prosecuting

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the case for the government, COPELAND faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 5 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled for before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in New Albany.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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